

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

January 1, 2002

10:00 AM

Members of the City Government elected at the Municipal Election held November 6, 2001 gathered at the Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester at 10:00 AM as required in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire and the Ordinances of the City of Manchester.

Mr. Scott Ellison, Master of Ceremonies, called the meeting to order. Mr. Ellison then introduced the Honorable Raymond Buckley for the welcome.

Mr. Buckley stated good morning. What a glorious way to begin the new year, not only in this beautiful new building that we hope for many years will stand and be an attraction and something that we can all be so terribly proud of in the City of Manchester by inviting people from not only around the City or the State but from throughout the country as we have at sports and City events and concerts and all of those things that we have already had. I think that for many years to come we will look back at the beginning of this facility as something that is going to make all of us proud to be residents of Manchester. Today we not only celebrate the new year, but we celebrate a new beginning for the City of Manchester. It is with the high hopes and the prayers of the people of Manchester that we today swear in those who represent the very essence of democracy, our election officials, those who are the ward clerks, moderators and selectmen in each ward. We celebrate the inauguration of those we entrust with our future – the members of the Board of School Committee. We celebrate the inauguration of the new Board of Aldermen where we entrust that for the next two years they will do their best to represent the best interests of the people of Manchester. We celebrate the inauguration of a new Welfare Commissioner whose job is to make sure that those who are in need have the best person there to make that assessment and make sure that they are able to move on and have a productive life here in the City of Manchester. We also celebrate the inauguration of the Mayor. Over the next two years there are going to be many challenges ahead. The people have spoken and today we have an inauguration and all of us have our prayers and our hopes with Mayor Bob Baines. On behalf of the Inaugural Committee – City Clerk Leo Bernier, Lorraine Blushiy, Shirley Brulotte, Susan Fischer, Nick Panagopoulos, C. Arthur Soucy and Lisa Thibault, I would like to officially welcome you to the 2002 Manchester City Inaugural Festivities. Thank you.

The elected officials, ushered by representatives of the Fire and Police Departments, were seated. The colors were then presented by the members of the West High School NJROTC.

Mr. Ellison stated at this time we will be joined by the four refugee families who are here with us this morning with the assistance of the International Institute of New Hampshire. They will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. They are: Aita Chadavish and her family from Bosnia, Young Wen and his family from Viet Nam, John Yen and family from the Sudan, and Fatin Yuseff Al-Husen and family from Iraq. We ask that you stand at this time and remain standing for the National Anthem led by the Memorial High School band, conducted by David Bresnahan.

Mr. Ellison then advised that they were assembled here in convention for the purpose of installing in Office the Mayor-elect, the Commissioner of Welfare-elect, the members-elect of the Board of Aldermen, members-elect of the Board of School Committee, Ward Clerks-elect, Moderators-elect, and the members-elect of the Board of Selectmen, in their respective wards who were duly chosen by the Electorate of the City of Manchester at the last Municipal Election held on Tuesday, November 6, 2001, to administer the affairs of our Municipal Government and our Wards for the ensuing term of two years. In carrying out this assignment in a legal manner as provided by the laws of the State of New Hampshire and the Ordinances of the City of Manchester, the required Oath of Office would be administered to each official thus chosen.

The invocation was then given by Rev. Robert Marchand, former Pastor of Saint Theresa Parish.

Mr. Ellison introduced the Beech Street School Chorus who performed a musical selection, conducted by Deborah Fraser.

The Oath of Office was then administered to the **Members-Elect of the Board of Aldermen** who were present at the Inaugural and so designated by an asterisk beside their names by Leo R. Bernier, City Clerk as follows:

*WARD 1	DAVID M. WIHBY
*WARD 2	THEODORE L. GATSAS
*WARD 3	FRANK C. GUINTA
*WARD 4	MARY A. SYSYN
*WARD 5	EDWARD J. OSBORNE
*WARD 6	REAL R. PINARD
*WARD 7	WILLIAM P. SHEA
*WARD 8	BETSI L. DEVRIES
*WARD 9	MICHAEL D. GARRITY
*WARD 10	GEORGE W. SMITH
*WARD 11	HENRY R. THIBAUT
*WARD 12	ARMAND D. FOREST
*AT-LARGE	MICHAEL J. LOPEZ
*AT-LARGE	DANIEL P. O'NEIL

The Oath of Office was then administered to **Members-Elect of the Board of School Committee** who were present at the Inaugural and so designated by an asterisk beside their names by City Clerk, Leo R. Bernier as follows:

*WARD 1	LESLEE M. STEWART
*WARD 2	FRANCOISE ELISE
*WARD 3	THOMAS J. DONOVAN
*WARD 4	CHRISTOPHER J. HERBERT
*WARD 5	KATHERINE M. LABANARIS
*WARD 6	JON M. GROSS
*WARD 7	DANIEL J. HEALY
*WARD 8	SANDRA DUBISZ-PARADIS
*WARD 9	ARTHUR J. BEAUDRY
*WARD 10	MARC A. COTE
*WARD 11	RUSSELL P. OUELLETTE
*WARD 12	BERNARD J. PERRY, JR.
*AT-LARGE	KATHLEEN M. KELLEY-BRODER
AT-LARGE	JOHN J. MCDONOUGH

The Oath of Office was then administered to **Ward Clerks-Elect** who were presented at the Inaugural and so designated by an asterisk beside their names by City Clerk, Leo R. Bernier as follows:

*WARD 1	SCOTT E. GREEN
*WARD 2	PETER W. KANTERES
*WARD 3	MARION G. RUSSELL
*WARD 4	MARION MCMILLAN
WARD 5	PATRICIA A. MCDONALD
*WARD 6	LOUISE GOSSELIN
*WARD 7	PATRICIA BOURNIVAL
WARD 8	D. LYNN LAVIGNE
WARD 9	STEPHEN T. CAVANAUGH
WARD 10	VINCENT J. MCHUGH
WARD 11	FELICE GOUPIL
*WARD 12	LUCILLE M. FOREST

The Oath of Office was then administered to the **Moderators-Elect** who were present at the Inaugural and so designated by an asterisk beside their names by City Clerk, Leo R. Bernier as follows:

*WARD 1	GEORGE S. TOSATTI
WARD 2	SIMONE MALONEY
WARD 3	SEAN W. THOMAS
WARD 4	PATRICIA L. MARTIN
WARD 5	JAMES A. MCDONALD, SR.
*WARD 6	CHRISTINE INFANTINE
WARD 7	PAUL J. DWYER
*WARD 8	ALBERTINE L. MORRISSETTE
*WARD 9	GLORIA PILOTTE
*WARD 10	MADELEINE G. ROY
WARD 11	EVERETT J. GODBOIS
*WARD 12	PAUL E. GAGNON

The Oath of Office was then administered to the **Selectmen-Elect** who were present at the Inaugural and so designated by an asterisk beside their names by City Clerk, Leo R. Bernier as follows:

WARD 1	*PAUL A. ALLARD JOCELYNE D. CHAMPAGNE *KAREN GILL
WARD 2	DORIS A. ROBITAILLE *JANET M. STILES BEATRICE P. VARKAS
WARD 3	*DONALD F. MCMAHON GREGORY REYNOLDS *EDWARD A. RUSSELL, JR.
WARD 4	*LLOYD BASINOW *LIONEL W. JOHNSON KATHLEEN E. THORNTON
WARD 5	NORMA GREER CHAMPAGNE *PATRICK GARRITY KEVIN WHEELER
WARD 6	*WILLIAM E. COUTURE JEFF GARDNER MIGUEL A. NIEVES
WARD 7	*PATRICIA BOURNIVAL *RONALD LAVIGNE *VIRGINIA MCDONALD
WARD 8	*MONIKA T. BROWN *MONIKA G. BRYANT JACQUELYN M. DOMAINGUE
WARD 9	*PAULETTE ASSELIN *GERALD O. GOSSELIN *LUCIENNE JOBIN
WARD 10	*MARILYN A. CASHIN *ROBERT W. DUFRESNE *CHRISTOPHER R. MESSIER
WARD 11	STEVEN F. AMIRAULT *ROGER MAJOR *JUNE PANAGOPOULOS
WARD 12	*DENISE L. PELLETIER *LILLIAN I. RHEAULT *YVETTE G. SMITH

The Oath of Office was then administered to **Commissioner of Welfare-Elect, Paul R. Martineau**, by City Clerk, Leo R. Bernier.

The Oath of Office was then administered to the **Mayor-Elect, Robert A. Baines**, by John C. Mongan, former Mayor.

Mayor Baines was then introduced to those in attendance by Scott Ellison.

Mr. Ellison stated it is now my honor to introduce Mayor Baines for his remarks this morning. Robert A. Baines has served as Manchester's 46th Mayor for the past two years, a post to which he was elected in 1999. Prior to that, since 1980 he served as principal of Manchester's West High School. He had also served as a Vice Principal and a music teacher prior to that and he served two terms on Manchester's School Board Committee. We are also honored to have Mayor Baines' family here this morning – his wife of 27 years, Maureen, his daughter Christina, his son, Timothy and his daughter Catherine. Now it is my distinct pleasure and honor to introduce my friend and my Mayor, Robert A. Baines.

Mayor Baines delivered his Inaugural address as follows:

HAPPY NEW YEAR.

BEFORE I BEGIN MY FORMAL REMARKS, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL WHO WORKED TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THIS INAUGURATION, ESPECIALLY THE CO-CHAIRS, SCOTT ELLISON AND RAY BUCKLEY, AND ALL WHO SERVED WITH THEM ON THE COMMITTEE. SPECIAL THANKS GOES OUT THE CITY CLERK'S STAFF. PLEASE JOIN WITH ME IN THANKING ALL OF THEM.

MAYOR MONGAN, ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS, FAMILY, FRIENDS AND CITIZENS OF OUR GREAT CITY:

IT IS AN HONOR TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE OF SERVING AS MAYOR OF THE CITY I LOVE. AS I DID TWO YEARS AGO, I WANT TO THANK MY LATE PARENTS, JIM AND RENA BAINES, WHO RAISED THE FIVE BAINES CHILDREN AT ONE JEFFERSON STREET IN SOUTH MANCHESTER. WE ARE FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS AND WERE RAISED TO RESPECT THE VALUES WE HAVE TRIED TO INSTILL WITHIN OUR OWN CHILDREN. I THANK BROTHERS, JIM AND AL, AND MY SISTERS, SHIRLEY AND SUE, FOR STANDING BY ME AND ALLOWING ME TO FULFILL MY LIFELONG DREAM OF SERVING AS THE MAYOR OF MY HOMETOWN.

I ALSO WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE MY WIFE OF TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS, MAUREEN, WHO HAS ENDURED SO MUCH TO ALLOW ME TO SERVE. SHE IS A WOMAN OF GREAT STRENGTH, COMPASSION AND DIGNITY AND HAS KEPT ALL OF OUR FAMILY FOCUSED ON THE IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF LIFE – THE LIFE OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS. I THANK ALL OF MY FAMILY FOR ALL YOU DO TO SUPPORT ME. I LOVE YOU.

THERE IS SOMETHING ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE ABOUT BEGINNING A NEW ADMINISTRATION ON THE FIRST DAY OF A NEW YEAR. IT IS A DAY FOR FRESH STARTS AND NEW BEGINNINGS. ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, OUR EYES ARE FIXED HOPEFULLY ON THE FUTURE. OUR MINDS ARE CLEARED OF THE SLIGHTS OF THE PAST. AND OUR RESOLVE TO CONFRONT THE CHALLENGE THE NEW YEAR BRINGS IS UNWAVERING.

NEW YEAR'S DAY IS ALSO A DAY TRADITIONALLY DEVOTED TO INTROSPECTION, REEXAMINATION, AND LIST-MAKING: AS INDIVIDUALS, WE RESOLVE TO LOSE 10 POUNDS, OBEY THE SPEED LIMIT, ATTEND CHURCH WITH GREATER REGULARITY, OR DEVOTE MORE TIME TO OUR FAMILIES. BUT, IT IS AN INTEREST IN CIVIC IMPROVEMENT -- NOT PERSONAL FULFILLMENT -- THAT DRAWS US TOGETHER TODAY. I ONLY HOPE THAT WE WILL BE MORE SUCCESSFUL REACHING THE GOALS WE SET FOR THE CITY THAN WE USUALLY ARE WHEN IT COMES TO KEEPING OUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR OURSELVES. I WANT TO COMMEND MY FELLOW LIST-MAKERS WHO HAVE JOINED ME ON THE STAGE AND WILL SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE BOARDS OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE. TOGETHER, WE WILL REALIZE FOR THE CITY WE LOVE THE PROMISE THE NEW YEAR BRINGS.

OUR OBLIGATION TO THE CITIZENS WHO HAVE ENTRUSTED US WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF OFFICE IS TO SUSTAIN THE MOMENTUM AND ENTHUSIASM THAT IS AVAILABLE IN ABUNDANCE AT THE START OF ANY ENDEAVOR BUT BECOMES INCREASINGLY SCARCE AS TIME MARCHES ON, PATIENCE ERODES, AND DETERMINATION SAGS. BUT IN THESE TIMES TEMPERED BY THREATS TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY AND THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE ECONOMY, WE CAN HAVE NO TOLERANCE FOR BACKSLIDING. DECISIVENESS MUST REPLACE DIVISIVENESS; DETERMINATION MUST REPLACE DELAY; AND COOPERATION MUST REPLACE CONFLICT.

THE SHADOW CAST BY THE EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11 EXTENDS INTO THE NEW YEAR AND FROM GROUND ZERO TO EVERY CITY AND TOWN IN THE NATION, INCLUDING MANCHESTER. AS ELECTED OFFICIALS, IT WILL BE OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CHANNEL THE ENERGY PRODUCED ON SEPT. 11 -- BOTH NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE -- IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. AS A CITY, THE MOST ELOQUENT AND PRODUCTIVE LEGACY WE CAN CREATE IN RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL TRAGEDY WILL INVOLVE A RENEWED DETERMINATION TO MAKE MANCHESTER A MODEL OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE, SOCIAL INCLUSION, AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY -- PRECISELY THE QUALITIES THAT MAKE

OUR COUNTRY SUCH A MAGNIFICENT PLACE TO LIVE BUT ALSO,
PARADOXICALLY, MADE IT THE TARGET FOR A CRAZY MAN'S WRATH.

FOUR DAYS AFTER JOHN KENNEDY WAS ASSASSINATED, LYNDON JOHNSON
DESCRIBED A "MOMENT OF NEW RESOLVE" AND URGED US "NOT TO
HESITATE, NOT TO PAUSE, NOT TO TURN ABOUT AND LINGER OVER THIS
EVIL MOMENT, BUT TO CONTINUE ON OUR COURSE SO WE MAY FULFILL THE
DESTINY THAT HISTORY HAS SET FOR US."

TODAY, AS AMERICAN CITIZENS AND AS CITIZENS OF MANCHESTER, WE
HAVE BEEN FORCED TO CONFRONT OUR GENERATION'S "EVIL MOMENT."
OUR RESPONSE HAS BEEN PREDETERMINED: IT IS THE RESPONSE CHOSEN BY
OUR PARENTS IN THE WAKE OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S DEATH AND BY OUR
GRANDPARENTS ON DECEMBER 7, 1941: WE MUST CONTINUE ON OUR COURSE
TO CREATE A SOCIETY AND A CITY IN WHICH WE ARE PROUD TO RAISE OUR
CHILDREN AND SAFE TO REST OUR HEADS, A CITY THAT LOOKS TO THE
FUTURE AND LEARNS FROM THE PAST, A CITY THAT INSPIRES IN ITS PEOPLE
AN OBLIGATION TO STEER IT TOWARD THE REALIZATION OF ITS FULLEST
POTENTIAL.

MANY OF OUR FELLOW CITIZENS, SOME OF WHOM ARE IN THIS ROOM
TODAY, WERE ENGAGED IN GREAT WORKS *BEFORE* SEPTEMBER 11. THEIR
EFFORTS AND OUR OBLIGATION AS ELECTED OFFICIALS TO HELP THEM
MUST BE REDOUBLED AS THE NEW YEAR BEGINS. IN 1963, LYNDON JOHNSON
SAID TO THE NATION: "LET US CONTINUE." TODAY, MY MESSAGE IS THE
SAME:

LET US CONTINUE TO CREATE SCHOOLS THAT ARE WORTHY OF THOSE WHO
LEARN, TEACH, AND WORK IN THEM EVERY DAY.

OUR AMBITIONS FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES ARE GRAND, BUT SO TOO ARE THE
DREAMS WE HAVE FOR OUR CHILDREN AND THE ONES THEY HAVE FOR
THEMSELVES. THEY DESERVE NOTHING LESS THAN SCHOOL FACILITIES
THAT ARE INCUBATORS FOR THOSE DREAMS - AND CERTAINLY SOMETHING
MORE THAN BUILDINGS WHICH ARE IMPEDIMENTS TO LEARNING BECAUSE
OF INADEQUATE SPACE, ERRATIC PLUMBING, AND TEMPERAMENTAL, IF NOT
DOWNRIGHT DEFIANT, BOILERS.

WE GATHER TODAY IN A BUILDING THAT IS A MONUMENT TO THE CITY'S
ABILITY TO OVERCOME ANY OBSTACLE - BE IT POLITICAL, PHILOSOPHICAL,
OR FINANCIAL - THAT STANDS IN THE WAY OF PROGRESS. THERE IS NO
GREATER THREAT TO OUR SUCCESS AS A CITY THAN AN UNTRAINED,

UNMOTIVATED POPULACE – PRODUCTS OF SCHOOLS THAT ARE MERELY ADEQUATE AND NOT EXCELLENT. WE DID NOT SCRIMP WHEN IT CAME TO CONSTRUCTING THIS FACILITY. WE WERE NOT DETERRED BY THE OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES. THIS BUILDING HAS DESERVED THE PRAISE ITS OPENING HAS GENERATED BECAUSE IT IS A GREAT BUILDING AND HOLDS GREAT PROMISE FOR OUR COMMUNITY. OUR CHILDREN ARE CERTAINLY AS DESERVING OF STATE OF THE ART FACILITIES AS CONCERT GOERS AND HOCKEY FANS.

NOTHING WE DO IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS WILL MEAN VERY MUCH IF WE FAIL TO MEET THE CHALLENGE PRESENTED BY OUR DETERIORATING SCHOOL FACILITIES. EARLIER THIS YEAR, I DESCRIBED THE FIGHT FOR RENOVATION AND RECONSTRUCTION AS A CRUSADE. TODAY, I REAFFIRM BY PLEDGE NOT TO REST UNTIL OUR SCHOOL BUILDINGS INSPIRE THE SAME LEVEL OF PRAISE THAT ACCOMPANIED THE OPENING OF THIS ARENA. I WILL NOT REST UNTIL WE FIX OUR SCHOOLS.

SHEPHERDING THE SCHOOL RENOVATION PROPOSAL I ANNOUNCED IN SEPTEMBER THROUGH THE NECESSARY APPROVALS WILL BE THE TOP PRIORITY OF MY SECOND TERM. ACCOMPLISHING THIS TASK WILL BE MADE EASIER BY CREATING A RENEWED SENSE OF TRUST AND INSPIRING A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN AND THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE. THE DISTRUST THAT HAS INFECTED THE RELATIONSHIP IN THE PAST MUST GIVE WAY TO COOPERATION, FOR RAISED VOICES ARE THE MOTHER OF LOWERED EXPECTATIONS. WITNESSING WHAT HAS TRANSPIRED BETWEEN BOTH BOARDS IN THE PAST LED ONE CENTRAL PARENT TO PREDICT THAT NOTHING WOULD EVER CHANGE AT HIS CHILD'S SCHOOL BECAUSE PERSONALITIES SEEMED MORE IMPORTANT THAN PROGRESS AND TURF MORE VALUED THAN TRUST. HIS WORDS RING IN MY EARS TO THIS DAY. WITH THE HELP OF THOSE ASSEMBLED BEHIND ME AND WITH THIS BUILDING SERVING AS A MONUMENT TO WHAT THE CITY CAN DO WHEN IT SETS ITS COLLECTIVE MIND TO ACCOMPLISHING SOMETHING, I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE CAN PROVE HIM WRONG. FOR THE SAKE OF OUR CHILDREN, WE MUST PROVE HIM WRONG.

LET US CONTINUE TO INVEST IN ART FOR THE SAKE OF ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND FOR THE SAKE OF ART ITSELF.

IN TWO YEARS, THE CITY HAS ESTABLISHED AN IMPRESSIVE RECORD CONCERNING THE ARTS. INDEED, THE EFFORTS OF GROUPS SUCH AS THE ART BUILDS COMMUNITY INITIATIVE AND THE ART COMMISSION AND OF

INDIVIDUALS SUCH AS PETER RAMSEY AT THE PALACE THEATRE HAVE ALREADY EARNED MANCHESTER THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD, A PRESTIGIOUS HONOR, FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS.

YESTERDAY'S FRONT PAGE STORY ABOUT THE PALACE THEATRE IN THE UNION LEADER WAS A TRIBUTE NOT JUST TO PETER OR TO SYL DUPUIS BUT ALSO TO THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO MAKE THE PALACE AND THE GROUPS IT SUPPORTS FROM HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUBS TO PROFESSIONAL SYMPHONIES AND OPERAS INTEGRAL PARTS OF AN ECONOMIC REVIVAL DOWNTOWN. WHAT A SIN IT WOULD HAVE BEEN TO ALLOW THE PALACE TO FLOUNDER WHEN IT WAS IN TROUBLE TWO YEARS AGO. IF WE HAD NOT COMMITTED SUBSTANTIAL FUNDING TO THE THEATRE, IT WOULD HAVE JOINED A SAD LITANY OF HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT PROPERTIES – LIKE THE RAILROAD STATION OR THE STATE THEATRE – THAT FELL VICTIM TO THE WRECKER'S BALL OR COMMUNITY INDIFFERENCE. IF WE COULD EVER FORGIVE OURSELVES FOR STANDING IDLY BY WHEN THE PALACE SHUT ITS DOORS, OUR CHILDREN NEVER WOULD. AS I SAID TWO YEARS AGO, THE DOORS TO THE PALACE THEATRE SHALL NEVER BE SHUT AGAIN!

MANCHESTER'S VIBRANT ARTS COMMUNITY WILL ALWAYS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN OUR PLANS FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND WILL PROVE TO BE AN INDISPENSABLE RESOURCE AS AN OUTLET FOR CREATIVITY AND COMPASSION, TWO COMMODITIES NO COMMUNITY CAN BE SUCCESSFUL WITHOUT.

LET US CONTINUE TO MAKE DOWNTOWN A DESTINATION LOCATION.

THE EVENTS OF SEPT. 11 HAVE CAUSED AMERICANS TO LOOK CLOSER TO HOME FOR SECURITY AND SUSTENANCE. MAKING OUR DOWNTOWN A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO THE ANONYMITY AND THE AGGRAVATION OF THE SHOPPING MALL CULTURE WILL SERVE NOT ONLY THE CITY'S ECONOMIC NEEDS BUT ITS PSYCHIC NEEDS AS WELL. IN TWO YEARS, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CHANNEL THE ENERGY PROVIDED BY A NEW EXCITEMENT ABOUT DOWNTOWN TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE THAT HAS ATTRACTED NEW RESTAURANTS AND SHOPS WHICH, IN TURN, ATTRACT MORE AND MORE PEOPLE DOWNTOWN. IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, A NUMBER OF EXCITING NEW VENTURES THAT BILL JABJINIAK, OUR DESTINATION MANCHESTER COORDINATOR, HAS CULTIVATED WILL RIPEN. WHILE I CANNOT PROMISE A RETURN TO THE TIME WHEN DOWNTOWN WAS THE ONLY GAME IN TOWN, I

AM CONFIDENT THAT IT WILL EMERGE AS THE EPICENTER OF MUCH OF WHAT IS NEW AND EXCITING IN MANCHESTER.

LET US CONTINUE TO CREATE A HOME FOR THE NEW ECONOMY – WHATEVER THE NEW ECONOMY IS.

OUR SUCCESS AS A CENTER FOR JOBS AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY DEPENDS ON OUR ABILITY TO RESPOND TO THE RAPIDITY OF CHANGE THAT CHARACTERIZES TODAY’S ECONOMY. ACCOMPLISHING THIS TASK IS IN OUR BLOOD. DERRYFIELD’S AGRARIAN ECONOMY GAVE WAY TO MANCHESTER’S SMALL SHOPS WHICH, IN TURN, GAVE WAY TO THE INDUSTRIALIZATION THAT IS STILL APPARENT IN THE CITY’S DEFINING ARCHITECTURAL FEATURE, ITS MILLS. AND WHEN THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY WENT SOUTH, MAKING SHOES TOOK ITS PLACE. WHEN THE SHOE INDUSTRY FOLLOWED THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY, HIGH TECH ENTREPRENEURS FILLED THE VACATED SPACE.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE MILLYARD IS NOT SIMPLY A TRIUMPH FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. IT ALSO REPRESENTS THE TRIUMPH OF THE ASPIRATIONS OF OUR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS. THEY WORKED IN THE MILLS FOR LONG HOURS AND FOR LITTLE PAY TO ESTABLISH BETTER LIVES FOR THEIR KIDS. THEY DREAMED OF A FUTURE IN WHICH THEIR OFFSPRING WOULD WORK IN CONDITIONS THAT DID NOT GNARL FINGERS, BEND BACKS, OR BREAK SPIRITS. THEY HOPED THEIR BLOOD, SWEAT, AND TEARS WOULD BE A DOWN PAYMENT FOR THE NEXT GENERATION, THE MEMBERS OF WHICH COULD BE FREED TO USE THEIR MINDS TO MAKE A LIVING – NOT THEIR HANDS. THAT THEIR HARD WORK HAS PAID OFF AND DREAMS HAVE BEEN REALIZED IS EVIDENT WHEN YOU SEE THAT TEXTILE SHOPS AND SHOE FACTORIES HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY HIGH TECH CONCERNS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING.

THE RECENT PUBLICITY SURROUNDING DEAN KAMEN’S SEGWAY REMINDED ME THAT MANCHESTER, ENGLAND, AFTER WHICH OUR CITY WAS NAMED AND MY ANCESTORS EMIGRATED FROM, WAS THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS PROVERB: “WHAT MANCHESTER SAYS TODAY, THE REST OF ENGLAND SAYS TOMORROW.” THE WORK HE AND MANY OTHERS HAVE EMBARKED ON IN THE MILLYARD AND ELSEWHERE IN THE CITY GUARANTEE THAT WHAT MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE SAYS TODAY, THE REST OF THE WORLD MAY INDEED SAY TOMORROW.

LET US CONTINUE TO MAKE MANCHESTER A WELCOMING THRESHOLD TO NEW AMERICANS.

IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS, PRESIDENT BUSH SAID: “AMERICA HAS NEVER BEEN UNITED BY BLOOD OR BIRTH OR SOIL. WE ARE BOUND BY IDEALS THAT MOVE US BEYOND OUR BACKGROUNDS, LIFT US ABOVE OUR INTERESTS, AND TEACH US WHAT IT MEANS TO BE CITIZENS. EVERY CHILD MUST BE TAUGHT THESE PRINCIPLES, EVERY CITIZEN MUST UPHOLD THEM. AND EVERY IMMIGRANT, BY EMBRACING THEM, MAKES OUR COUNTRY MORE – NOT LESS – AMERICAN.”

DURING THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, IT WAS APPARENT TO ALL IN THIS ROOM THAT MANCHESTER IS BLESSED TO COUNT AMONG ITS RESIDENTS SOME OF THE COUNTRY’S NEWEST CITIZENS FROM BOSNIA, IRAQ, SUDAN, AND VIETNAM. THEIR PRESENCE WILL HAVE BOTH A PROFOUND AND POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE CITY’S FUTURE. AS A COMMUNITY THAT HAS GAINED INCREASED STRENGTH WITH EACH SUCCESSIVE WAVE OF IMMIGRATION, MANCHESTER IS UNIQUELY EQUIPPED TO TEACH AMERICAN IDEALS WHILE EMBRACING THE RICHNESS OF CULTURES DIFFERENT THAN OUR OWN.

THEY ARE US – OR, IT MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATE TO SAY THAT WE WERE THEM - BECAUSE WE ARE ALL THE OFFSPRING OF IMMIGRANTS. THE COMMON BOND OF THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE UNDERSCORES OUR OBLIGATION TO LEAD THEM, OUR NEWEST NEIGHBORS – AND, IN SO DOING – TO LEAD OUR COUNTRY CLOSER TO THE PROMISE OF THE PERFECT UNION MADE IN OUR CONSTITUTION.

LET US RESOLVE TO DO MORE FOR THOSE WHOSE PRESENCE AMONG US IS TOO OFTEN IGNORED. LET US NEVER FORGET THAT OUR CITY HAS ALWAYS WELCOMED PEOPLE, FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, IN SEARCH OF THE AMERICAN DREAM. NOW, MORE THAN EVER, WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO WELCOME THOSE WHO REPRESENT THE NEW MANCHESTER. AS THEY SEEK A NEW BEGINNING, LET US RESOLVE TO HELP THEM MAKE MANCHESTER THEIR HOME.

THE RECENT DISCUSSION IN THE ALDERMANIC CHAMBER HIGHLIGHTED THE PLIGHT OF THE HOMELESS AND THE LIMITED AND EXPENSIVE HOUSING OPTIONS AVAILABLE IN THIS CITY. IN MY FIRST TWO YEARS IN OFFICE, WE HAVE SEARCHED FRANTICALLY AND -- I WILL ADMIT -- UNSUCCESSFULLY TO

FIND IF NOT A SOLUTION AT LEAST A WORKABLE PLAN TO ADDRESS THIS PRESSING NEED.

PAUL MARTINEAU AND THE DEDICATED AND DUTIFUL EMPLOYEES AT THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAVE EARNED, AT THE VERY LEAST, A COMMITMENT FROM US TO TREAT THE PROBLEM IN A MANNER BEFITTING WHAT IT IS – A TRUE CRISIS. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH COMMISSIONER MARTINEAU TO ENSURE THAT WE HELP THOSE IN NEED WHILE ALSO CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THOSE WHO CAN, THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK.

LET US ALWAYS HONOR THE HEROES WHO WALK IN OUR MIDST.

WHAT SEPARATES THE NEW YORK FIRE FIGHTER AND POLICE OFFICER FROM THOSE WHO FILL THOSE ROLES IN MANCHESTER IS MERELY MILES. IN MANCHESTER, JUST AS IN NEW YORK, OUR PUBLIC SERVANTS PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE EACH DAY. IMAGINE THE DEDICATION TO DUTY AND TO THE PEOPLE YOU SERVE THAT IS REQUIRED TO PREPARE FOR WORK EACH DAY KNOWING WHAT YOU MIGHT CONFRONT AND WHAT MIGHT CONFRONT YOU WHEN YOU ARRIVE. EXCEPT FOR THOSE IN UNIFORM, NO ONE IN THIS ROOM RISKS THEIR LIFE MERELY BY SHOWING UP FOR WORK – AND WE MUST NEVER TAKE THIS SELFLESS DEVOTION TO OUR CITY FOR GRANTED. LET US RECOGNIZE THOSE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE WITH US TODAY.

OUR MISSION, THEN, ON THIS FIRST DAY OF A BRAND NEW YEAR IS CLEAR AND RATHER STRAIGHTFORWARD: TO CONTINUE ON A COURSE THAT SECURES THE BRIGHTEST POSSIBLE FUTURE FOR ALL THE CITIZENS OF MANCHESTER AND TO MAINTAIN THE OPTIMISM, ENERGY, AND SPIRIT OF COOPERATION THAT PERMEATES THIS ARENA THROUGHOUT OUR TIME IN OFFICE.

OUR BOND WITH OUR FOREFATHERS AND MOTHERS, OUR OBLIGATION TO OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN, AND THE IMPERATIVES OF OUR TIME COMMAND US TO SUSTAIN THE PROMISE OF THIS FIRST DAY OF THE NEW YEAR EVEN WHEN OUR INCLINATION TO SURRENDER SEEMS IRRESISTIBLE. WE OWE NOTHING LESS TO A CITY THAT HAS GIVEN ALL OF US SO MUCH.

BUT, LET ME ADD A CAVEAT, IF I CAN FOR MY FELLOW ELECTED OFFICIALS: YES, WE OWE A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME AND ATTENTION TO

THOSE WE SERVE, BUT WE OWE EVEN MORE TO OUR SPOUCES, OUR CHILDREN, OUR PARENTS AND FRIENDS. I HAVE YET TO ATTEND AN OFFICIAL MEETING THAT WAS MORE GRATIFYING THAN ONE OF MY KID'S ATHLETIC EVENTS OR MUSICAL PERFORMANCES. AND, AS WE ALL KNOW, THE POWER OF COMMUNITY IS REALLY THE POWER OF FAMILY. WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO BUILD BOTH. REMEMBER, NO ONE HAS EVER LEFT THIS WORLD WITH THIS DEATH BED CONFESSION: "I WISH I HAD SPENT MORE TIME AT CITY HALL."

IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, I HAVE BECOME QUITE FOND OF A QUOTATION FROM ADLAI STEVENSON THAT SUMMED UP HIS SENTIMENTS ABOUT HIS HOMETOWN OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS. IT IS A GREAT NOTE ON WHICH TO END A SPEECH AND BEGIN A NEW ADMINISTRATION:

"I HAVE BLOOMINGTON TO THANK FOR THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON I HAVE LEARNED: THAT IN QUIET PLACES, REASON ABOUNDS; THAT IN QUIET PLACES, THERE IS VISION AND PURPOSE; THAT MANY THINGS ARE REVEALED TO THE HUMBLE THAT ARE HIDDEN FROM THE GREAT...THE SPIRIT OF BLOOMINGTON IS THE HOMETOWN CONCEPT OF AMERICANISM – PROGRESS COUPLED WITH ORDER, LIBERTY WITHOUT LICENSE, TOLERANCE WITHOUT LAXNESS, THRIFT WITHOUT MEANNESS. MY HOMETOWN TAUGHT ME THAT GOOD GOVERNMENT AND GOOD CITIZENSHIP ARE THE SAME...AND THAT PUBLIC OFFICE SHOULD REDOUBLE THE RESPONSIBILITY A MAN FEELS FOR HIS OWN HOME, HIS NEIGHBORHOOD, HIS HOMETOWN. I HOPE I CAN REMEMBER THESE GREAT TRUTHS THAT SEEM SO OBVIOUS IN BLOOMINGTON BUT SO OBSCURE IN OTHER PLACES."

AND NOW LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE JOIN WITH ME AS WE CONTINUE TO OPEN THE DOORS OF CITY HALL TO THE PEOPLE. I RENEW MY PLEDGE TO WORK WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL TO BE AS GOOD A MAYOR AS MANCHESTER'S PEOPLE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MAY GOD BLESS YOU, AND MAY GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Mr. Ellison introduced Kaleigh Cronin, a seventh grade student at Hillside Middle School who provided a musical selection.

The Benediction was then given by Dr. Shuja Saleem.

Mr. Ellison invited all present to a luncheon reception on the main concourse at the conclusion of the program followed by an Inaugural Walk to City Hall where the Board of School Committee would meet, for organizational purposes, in the Aldermanic Chambers at approximately 1:00 PM, and the organizational meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen would follow immediately thereafter.

The assembly was then adjourned by Mr. Ellison.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk

State of New Hampshire
Hillsborough SS
1 January 2002

John McDonough did personally appear before me and took his oath of office as a member of the Board of School Committee.

s/Leo R. Bernier
City Clerk